Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~1~~ 14 wherein said dosage form is a tablet.

3. (Originally Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the polymer matrix hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose is present in an amount of from about 20% to 40% by weight of the composition.

4. (Originally Presented) The composition of claim 3 wherein said polymer matrix has a viscosity of from about 100 to about 100,000 cps.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~5~~ 4 wherein the active ingredient is present in the unit dosage form in an amount of about 150-400 mg.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the patient is suffering from acute pain and the unit dosage form is administered once or twice a day.

8. (Originally Presented) The method of claim 7 where the patient is suffering from minor pain and the unit dosage form is administered once a day.

9. (Cancelled)

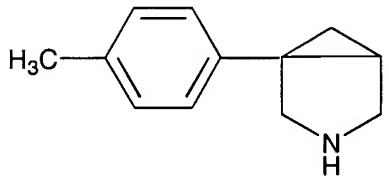
10. (Currently Amended) The unit oral dosage form of claim ~~9~~ 16 wherein said composition is in the form of a tablet.

11. (Currently Amended) The unit dosage form of claim ~~9~~ 16 wherein the hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose polymer matrix is present in an amount of from about 20% to 40% by weight of this composition.

12. (Currently Amended) The unit dosage form of claim ~~9~~ 16 wherein said polymer matrix has a viscosity of from about 100 to about 100,000 cps.

13. (Currently Amended) The unit dosage form of claim 10 wherein said active ingredient is present in an amount of 200 mg to 400 mg.

14. (Newly Presented) A method for reducing pain in a patient in need of said treatment comprising orally administering to said patient in a unit oral dosage form a composition containing from about 25 to 600 mg. of an active ingredient selected from the group consisting of a compound of the formula



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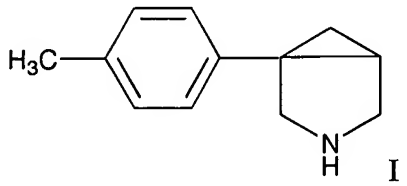
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

and from about 15% to 50% by weight, of said composition of a hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose hydrophilic slow release polymer matrix, said unit dosage being orally administered to said patient from once to twice a day.

15. The method of claim 14 wherein the unit dosage form contains a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier composition containing dibasic calcium phosphate.

16. A unit oral dosage form comprising a composition containing from about 25 to 600 mg. of an active ingredient selected from the group consisting of a compound of the formula



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and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

from about 15% to about 50% of weight of said composition of a hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose hydrophilic slow release polymer matrix.

17. The unit dosage form of claim 16 wherein said dosage form contains a pharmaceutically carrier composition containing calcium phosphate.

18. The unit dosage form of claim 17 wherein said carrier is present in an amount of from about 40% to 60% by weight of said composition.